

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANJUL 00559 191707Z

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FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4269

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

UNCLAS BANJUL 0559

ABIDJAN FOR RBFO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP OGEN GA

SUBJECT: SUMMER INTERN

REF: A) STATE 063847 (NOTAL)

B) BANJUL 0446 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY IS ANTICIPATING THAT LARGE NUMBER OF AMERICAN TOURISTS WILL BE VISITING THE GAMBIA DURING SUMMER MONTHS, BEGINNING END OF JUNE. THEIR PRIMARY INTEREST WILL RELATE TO LOCAL CULTURE AND HISTORY, AS EXPRESSED IN ROOTS. EMBASSY COULD USE CONCISE, PRACTICAL GUIDE GEARED TO AMERICAN TOURISTS' INTERESTS AND CONCERNS, SOMETHING THAT COULD BE AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN VISITORS. GUIDE, WHICH WOULD BE NO MORE THAN 8 PAGES IN LENGTH, COULD BE LOCALLY REPRODUCED, AND CONTAIN PRACTICAL INFORMATION, AS WELL AS BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH.

2. PREPARATION OF THIS GUIDE WOULD TAKE NO MORE THAN 2-3 WEEKS, BUT MANY TOURISTS MIGHT LIKE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE GAMBIA, AND ITS CONNECTIONS WITH MR. HALEY'S WORK, WITH A KNOWLEDGE-ABLE AMERICAN BASED IN BANJUL.

3. CHARGE HAS SPOKEN WITH A.S. JAGNE, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE,
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WHO SAYS HE COULD USE TRAINED SOCIAL SCIENTIST FOR HELP IN ORGANIZING DATA IN SOCIAL RESEARCH FIELD. HE ALSO NEEDS ASSISTANCE WITH IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR SOCIAL WELFARE WORKERS.

4. WHILE TWO AREAS OF INTEREST ARE QUITE DIVERSE, EMBASSY FEELS THAT USEFUL PROJECT COULD BE DEVELOPED WHICH WOULD INITIALLY CONCERN PREPARATION OF VISITOR'S GUIDE AND ASSISTANCE TO TOURISTS, AND MIGHT

THEN INCLUDE SOME WORK WITH SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT. SUCH ACTIVITY WOULD APPEAR TO ENCOMPASS INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE OF MRS. RUCKS, AND WOULD PROVE USEFUL TO MISSION EFFORT.

5. MRS. RUCKS SHOULD BE FULLY INFORMED ABOUT SMALL SIZE OF THIS EMBASSY, AND FACT THAT ALL MISSION PERSONNEL DEVELOP SELF-SUFFICIENCY TO UTMOST. SHE WILL BE HERE DURING RAINY SEASON, AND AT TIME WHEN SOME MISSION PERSONNEL, INCLUDING CHARGE, WILL BE TAKING VACATION LEAVE. THEREFORE, SHE WILL NEED TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY, AND WITH MINIMUM OF SUPERVISION. BEARING IN MIND THESE CONSTRAINTS, EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE MRS. RUCKS WITH US THIS SUMMER.

.6. PLEASE ADVISE RE PARA 2, REFTEL B, CONCERNING COSTS TO POST OF INTERN'S SERVICES AND SUPPORT. WHAT DATES WOULD MRS. RUCKS BE AVAILABLE? WE ARE EXPECTING INITIAL TOURIST INFLUX MID TO LATE JUNE. WYGANT

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